8011-01p SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION [Release No. 34-72377; File No. SR-BATS-2014-024]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; BATS Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Related to Fees for Use of BATS Exchange, Inc.
June 12, 2014.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on June 4, 2014, BATS Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BATS") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as one establishing or changing a member due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange filed a proposal to amend the fees applicable to securities listed on the Exchange pursuant to BATS Rule 14.13. Changes to the Exchange's fees pursuant to this proposal are effective upon filing.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at http://www.batstrading.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

On August 30, 2011, the Exchange received approval of rules applicable to the qualification, listing, and delisting of companies on the Exchange,⁵ which it modified on February 8, 2012 in order to adopt pricing for the listing of exchange traded products ("ETPs") on the Exchange.⁶ The Exchange proposes to modify Rule 14.13, entitled "Company Listing Fees" to reduce the entry fee for ETPs from \$10,000 to \$5,000 and to introduce new annual fees for ETPs that are not participating in the competitive liquidity provider program under Interpretation and Policy .02 to Rule 11.8 (the "CLP Program"). For ETPs that are participating in the CLP Program, the Exchange proposes that the annual fees continue to be \$35,000.

 <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 65225 (August 30, 2011) 76 FR 55148 (September 6, 2011) (SR-BATS-2011-018).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 72020 (April 25, 2014) 79 FR 24807 (May 1, 2014) (SR-BATS-2012-010).

Currently, Rule 14.13(a)(A)(1)(C) provides that the entry fee for an ETP is \$10,000, a fee that is assessed on the date of listing on the Exchange, except for a \$5,000 non-refundable application fee which must be submitted along with the initial listing application. The Exchange proposes to instead charge a reduced entry fee of \$5,000, which will continue to be non-refundable and due upon submission of the initial listing application. Consistent with current Rule 14.13 the Exchange is not proposing to charge an entry fee for transfer listings.

The Exchange is also proposing to introduce lower annual fees for ETPs.

Currently, Rule 14.13 provides that the issuer of an ETP shall pay an annual fee of \$35,000 for funds initially listed on the Exchange. Rule 14.13 provides that the issuer of an ETP that is a transfer listing shall pay an annual fee of \$15,000. The Exchange is proposing to continue to charge \$35,000 per year to the issuer of an ETP that is participating in the CLP Program. For all issuers of ETPs that are not participating in the CLP Program, including transfer listings, the Exchange proposes to charge the issuer on a quarterly basis based on the ETPs consolidated average daily volume (the "CADV"), as defined below, during the quarter preceding the billing date. Specifically, the Exchange is proposing to charge issuers of ETPs on a quarterly basis as follows:

CADV	Quarterly Fee	Annual Fee
0 – 10,000	\$1,250	\$5,000
10,001 – 40,000	\$2,000	\$8,000
40,001 – 80,000	\$3,000	\$12,000
80,001 – 150,000	\$3,750	\$15,000

150,001 – 400,000	\$4,500	\$18,000
Greater than 400,000	Free	Free

As proposed, CADV is calculated based on the three calendar months preceding the month for which the fees apply, meaning that when calculating the rebates that apply to a particular ETP, the CADV will be based on the three calendar months prior to the current trading month. For example, in calculating the annual fee that will be billable to the issuer of an ETP on the first day of the third quarter, the Exchange will look to the average daily volume reported for the ETP by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities to a consolidated transaction reporting plan for the second quarter, or April, May, and June. If that ETP was an initial listing on BATS (not a transfer listing from another listing market) and was listed beginning on May 15, the calculation of CADV would include all days from April 1 through May 14 with zero volume for each trading day. For transfer listings, the determination of the annual fees applicable to the ETP in the third quarter will be based on the CADV for the second quarter, regardless of where the ETP was listed during that period.

As noted above, the Exchange proposes to amend Rule 14.13 in order to make clear that the issuer of an ETP that participates in the CLP Program will continued to pay the Exchange an annual fee of \$35,000.

Finally, the Exchange is proposing to correct a typographical error in the rule text. Specifically, the Exchange is proposing to amend the second sub-paragraph "(a)" in Rule 14.13 to "(b)" in order to make the rule more easily understandable.

Implementation Date

The Exchange proposes to implement these amendments to its fees on June 2, 2014.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6 of the Act.⁷ Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁸ in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among issuers and it does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Exchange is proposing a tiered pricing structure for ETPs listed on the Exchange based on CADV that will significantly reduce listing fees for all new issuers, with the potential for free listing, which the Exchange believes are equitable and non-discriminatory because the tiers will be applied equally to all ETPs listed on the Exchange, including transfer listings. The Exchange also believes that continuing to charge \$35,000 annually for ETPs that continue to participate in the CLP Program is equitable and non-discriminatory because the costs associated with operating the CLP Program are significantly higher than the anticipated costs associated with the new lead market maker program (the "LMM Program"), into which newly listed ETPs will be automatically enrolled. Further, ETPs participating in the CLP Program may opt out of

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

the CLP Program at any time in order to participate in the LMM Program and be charged the lower quarterly fees. Similarly, the Exchange believes that, while a transfer listing could possibly be charged a higher annual fee under the proposal (\$18,000 vs. \$15,000), the proposed changes are equitable and non-discriminatory because the pricing will be applied equally to all ETP listings, including transfer listings, and ETP transfer listings may also be eligible for reduced fees. Additionally, as described below, the annual fees are generally based on the cost to the Exchange associated with listing. The Exchange notes that it does not currently have any transfer listings and thus there are no BATS-listed ETPs that are eligible for continued annual fees of \$15,000, as provided in current Rule 14.13, meaning that no existing ETP listings will be subject to a change in pricing and that any ETP that transfers to the Exchange in the future will have advanced notice of the proposed pricing.

The Exchange believes that it is equitable, reasonable, and non-discriminatory to charge increased listing fees to ETPs as their CADV increases. Under the LMM Program, the Exchange plans to offer enhanced rebates to any registered lead market maker for executions where such lead market maker has added displayed liquidity in a BATS-listed ETP for which they are designated as lead market maker, provided that they must meet specified quoting requirements in such BATS-listed ETP. The Exchange notes that as part of these enhanced rebates, it is planning to provide gradually *decreasing* rebates as the CADV increases in the BATS-listed ETP. While this may at first seem counterintuitive because the proposed listing fees for ETPs *increase* as the CADV increases, the total costs associated with operating the LMM Program for an ETP generally increase as the CADV increases because there are more shares executed that

rebate of \$0.0070 per share for a particular ETP with a CADV of 5,000, the Exchange could potentially pay \$35 per day on average in enhanced rebates. Where the Exchange pays enhanced rebates of \$0.0045 per share for an ETP with a CADV of 60,000, even though the Exchange is offering a smaller per share enhanced rebate, the total potential daily exposure (\$270 per day) is significantly larger than the exposure in the ETP with the higher rebate, but smaller CADV. The Exchange notes, however, that there are some benefits associated with having BATS-listed ETPs with higher CADVs that, at a certain point, can more than offset the exposure from increased total rebate payments in such securities, as further described below. Because the Exchange faces greater exposure in enhanced rebates in ETPs with higher CADVs, the Exchange believes that it is reasonable to charge higher listing fees for ETPs with a higher CADV. Based on the foregoing, the Exchange believes that its proposed tiered pricing structure for the listing of ETPs is a fair and equitable allocation of fees to issuers.

The Exchange also believes that it is equitable, reasonable, and non-discriminatory to provide listings free of charge to ETPs with CADV exceeding 400,000. As a general matter, ETPs that are better known and well-established are frequently more actively traded, liquid securities. The Exchange believes that the benefits to both the Exchange and other Exchange constituents of attracting and retaining such ETPs to list on the Exchange justifies the Exchange waiving the listing fees for these issuers. As it relates to other issuers, the ability of the Exchange to attract well-known, recognizable, and successful ETPs on the Exchange will help the Exchange to establish its status and reputation as a primary listing market. The Exchange's reputation as a primary listing

market will, in turn, positively impact all securities that are listed on the Exchange. Further, the Exchange believes that additional revenue generated from the Exchange's auction processes for actively traded ETPs will offset the cost of operating a program for these securities. Because ETPs with higher CADV are likely to generate additional revenue for the Exchange, the Exchange believes it is reasonable to waive fees for ETPs with CADV greater than 400,000. Based on the foregoing, the Exchange believes that providing annual listing free of charge for issuers of ETPs with CADV greater than 400,000 is a fair and equitable allocation of fees to issuers.

The Exchange believes it is reasonable and equitable to assess annual fees on a pro-rated quarterly basis instead of an annual basis based on the listing date of an ETP. In particular, the Exchange believes that quarterly billing in prorated amounts will allow an issuer's bill to more accurately reflect an ETP's current CADV.

The Exchange also believes that lowering the initial listing fee from \$10,000 to \$5,000 for ETPs is reasonable and equitable because it will result in lower initial costs to all ETP issuers.

Finally, the Exchange believes that correcting the typographical error to the numbering of the subparagraphs of Rule 14.13 is reasonable and equitable because it will make the rule text more easily understandable.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. With respect to the proposed new pricing for the listing of ETPs, the Exchange does not believe that the changes burden competition, but instead, enhance

competition, as it is intended to increase the competitiveness of the Exchange's listings program. The Exchange also believes the proposed change would enhance competition because it brings ETP listings prices closer to those currently offered by both Arca and Nasdaq. The proposed changes are generally intended to lower the Exchange's listing fees and make these fees more reflective of an ETP's trading activity, which the Exchange believes will further help it compete against the other listing markets. As such, the proposal is a competitive proposal that is intended to attract additional ETP listings, which will, in turn, benefit the Exchange and all other BATS-listed ETPs.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any written comments from members or other interested parties.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission</u>
Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act⁹ and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-BATS-2014-024 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange
 Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BATS-2014-024. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m.

and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the

principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change;

the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You

should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All

submissions should refer to File Number SR-BATS-2014-024, and should be submitted

on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS FROM PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL

REGISTER].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to

delegated authority.11

Kevin M. O'Neill, Deputy Secretary.

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17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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